TL 2216

tapol
British Campaign for the Defence of Political Prisoners and Human Rights in Indonesia

MEMO

3 May, 1985

Signatures received so far

UK	33	Denmark	38	Australia	10
Ireland	15	Norway	4	Portugal	14 (?)
Holland	20	New Zealand	4	France	2
				Germany	2

All members of Portugal's Parliamentary Commission on E Timor have signed but signatures have not reached us, so the number is not clear.

We plan to discuss with Lord Avebury, mid-May, to consider whether the Declaration can be issued end May, and if so when and how. The IGGI meeting takes place 4-5 June in Amsterdam, but we'll need a better spread of signatures than at present to be able to launch the Declaration.

Der Spiegel article

A slap in the face for Murdani! However, neither Mr Klose nor the other members of the SPD Human Rights Committee of which he is chairman are willing tosign the Declaration, fearing it would close venues of contact with Jakarta. As if that hasn't been achieved by the article which I enclose for use to lobby other soc-dem MPs.

European Parliament Resolution

UK MEP Stan Newens wants to try to have a motion tabled. I have submitted a draft (enclosed to those of you in Europe), but please note that Stan may want to change/shorten this before offering it to others for support.

UN Human Rights Commission

It was Australia after all which took a pro E Timor stand. The confusion over Austria or Australia wasn't helped by lack of communication from Australia. However, we've now seen a clipping praising Canberra for changing its vote.

Efforts to get E Timor back on the Commission agenda would require submissions being presented before the end of this month, in order to get on to the agenda of the Sub-Commission which meets in August.

West German Government's Attitude

A parliamentary inquiry launched by the Greens (with help from E Timor solidarity activists) has provoked a response from the Kolh government which is pro Indonesia in the extreme. It claims there's no war in E Timor (not even Murdani says that!), that there was never any ceasefire, that the question of E Timor representation in the international negotiations is entirely a matter for Indonesia and Protugal to decide, and that West German military exports to Indonesia are for non-military purposes.

That's all for now.

Carmel

- Venezuela names passed on to CIIR.
- Can we get Belo's document of 1.1.85 in original text?

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I have written to Ben Whitaker about pushing the E Timor issue at the next Sub-Commission meeting. I never find it helpful speaking to him on the phone. Possibly the idea of a delegation should be raised by NGOs like Pax Romana / Christie.

C